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24 August 1956

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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: BGN Name Policies with respect to NIS 39A (Communist China)**

**REFERENCES:** (a) Memorandum for the Record, same subject,  
dated 20 August 1956  
(b) Memorandum from Director, Office of Geography,  
Subject: Chinese Communist Names,  
dated 22 August 1956, with attachment

118

1. A meeting was held this date in my office attended by Messrs.

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2. Discussion of subject matter concluded with the following agreement:

a. That editing of NIS geographic names will reflect the de facto situation in Communist China as it affects administrative subdivisions.

b. On maps and in the text of NIS the conventional name will be used wherever appropriate, followed by the Communist name in parenthesis; where there is no conventional name the Communist name will be used followed by the Nationalist name in parenthesis.

3. The question of whether certain Chinese names based on Turkic, Mongolian, and Tibetan specific terms are to be romanized from Chinese sources or translated will be raised at the forthcoming meeting of the Foreign Names Committee. OBI takes no position respecting this matter, relying upon the technical competence of the BGN staff to determine the proper transliteration procedure.

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CONFIDENTIAL

**SUBJECT: BGN Name Policies with respect to NIS 39A      24 August 1956**

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24 August 1956

4. As indicated in my previous memorandum, these changes do not appear to extend beyond the present BGN name policies. Eventually there will be necessity for changing the present policy in order to reflect de facto name changes in the Chinese mainland, but these do not as yet appear to be sufficiently extensive to warrant name revision in the present gazetteer. [REDACTED] has indicated that disclaimers will be used on all NIS maps and that the published issues of these outside of the NIS will be held in "Official Use Only" category. 25X1A9a

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